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In The Matter Of:

Tammy Kitzmiller, et al. v. Dover Area School District, et al.

> Richard Nilsen January 3, 2005

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January 3, 2005

Page 27

Page 28

	Ver mea deader 4:04-ev-d2006-JEJ Document 10	<u>3-5</u>	Filed 07/01/05 Page 3 01 4
***************************************	Page 25		Page 2
[1]	A: Three and a half years.	[1]	A: No. I am sorry. That is over 30 years ago. That is
[2]	Q: When you were Assistant Superintendent, did you have	1	all I remember.
	responsibilities for curriculum as Mr. Baksa does now?	[3]	Q: Have you attended any courses or lectures or seminars
[4]	A : Yes.	1	relating to the subjects of evolution, Intelligent
[5]	Q: And prior to becoming Assistant Superintendent, what did	1	Design, creation or Creationism?
	you do?	[6]	A: No.
[7]	A: Director of Curriculum Instruction.	[7]	Q: How often does the Dover Area School Board meet?
[8]	Q: For Dover area?	[8]	A: Usually twice a month.
[9]	A: No. Big Springs School District.	[9]	Q: Do you attend all those meetings?
[10]	Q: How long did you hold that position?	[10]	A: Yes.
[11]	A: Five years. Five or six.	[11]	Q: Who keeps the minutes of those meetings?
[12]	Q: And prior to that?	[12]	A: The secretary.
[13]	A: High School Principal, Big Springs School District.	[13]	Q: How is the secretary position selected?
[14]	Q: How long did you hold that position?	[14]	A: To clarify, the Board approves a secretary. Our current
[15]	A: Total five years.		secretary of the Board is battling cancer and has not
[16]	Q: You used the word total. Was it broken up?	1	1 Division for some and a half Wa
[17]	A: Yes.	1 -	have had an Acting Secretary who the Board formally
	Q: Why was that?	1	approved as Assistant Secretary.
[18] [19]	A: I was acting one year, then returned to the Assistant	[19]	On one occasion, October 18th, we had an
	Principal's position. I then went to another District		additional individual sit in as the Board secretary.
	for three years, then returned for four.	[21]	Q: In place of the Acting Secretary?
	Q: When you were in the other District, were you also	[22]	A: Yes.
[22]	Principal?	[23]	Q: Is it the practice of the Board to record the meeting?
	A: Yes.	[24]	A: Yes.
[24]	Q: Prior to taking positions as a Principal or Assistant	[25]	Q: What is done with those recordings after the meeting is
[25]	Page 26	[20]	Page 2
[1]	Principal, were you ever a schoolteacher?	[1]	completed?
[2]	A: Yes.	[2]	A: They are kept until the Board officially approves the
[3]	Q: What subjects did you teach?	1	minutes. After the approval of the minutes, the tapes
[4]	A: Social studies.	1	are destroyed.
[5]	Q: How long did you do that?	[5]	Q: Who developed the policy of destroying the tapes after
[6]	A: Five and a half years.		the minutes are approved?
[7]	Q: Where did you get your degree?	[7]	A: Don't know. It happened prior to me.
[8]	A: Which one?	[8]	Q: Are there any circumstances where the full Board meets
[9]	Q: What degrees do you have?	[9]	that is not open to the public?
[10]	A: I have an undergraduate BA in social studies from Gordon	[10]	A: Yes.
[11]	College. I have a Master's in Administration from	[11]	Q: Is there a name for those kinds of meetings?
[12]	Shippensburg University, and I have a doctorate from	[12]	A: Executive session.
[13]	Temple University. So I am actually Dr. Nilsen.	[13]	Q: Do you attend those sessions?
[14]	Q: During any of your college and post graduate education,	[14]	A: Some.
[15]	did you take any science courses?	[15]	Q: What are the — let me back up. Is it your
[16]	A: No. Wait a minute. You said undergraduate?	[16]	responsibility to attend all the full public Board
[17]	MR. GILLEN: He did I believe.	[17]	meetings?
[18]	A 37	[18]	A: Yes.
[19]	DV MD DOTUCCUI D	[19]	Q: What are the circumstances where you will attend an
[20]	a Dil a di a	[20]	executive session meeting?
[21]	A N. V. to the superferience I believe	[21]	A: If requested by the Board to attend.
[22]	o www.	[22]	Q: Does anyone record what is said in the executive session
	A. Van	root	maatings

Q: Who developed the policy of not recording executive

[23] meetings?

A: No.

Q: That is the only science subject you can remember taking

[23]

[25] as an undergraduate?

Dover Area School District, et January 3, 2005 4:04-cy-02688-JEJ Page 29 Page 31 [1] session meetings? Q: Can you describe those two committees? A: Don't know. [2] A: There is the Board curriculum committee, and then there Q: Are any minutes produced for executive session meetings? is the community curriculum committee. [4] Q: Let's start with the Board curriculum committee. Who (Aralene D. And Frederick B. Callahan exit the [5] are the members of the Board curriculum committee? [5] conference room.) A: The Board members and the Assistant Superintendent. [6] BY MR. ROTHSCHILD: Q: Does anybody besides those individuals attend curriculum [7] Q: Is it your practice to take notes during Board meetings? (8) committee meetings? [8] [9] A: If requested, yes. [9] Q: What do you do with those notes after the meeting is Q: Does faculty attend curriculum committee meetings? [10] [10] [11] concluded? A: Which curriculum committee meeting? [11] A: After I have implemented what my notes say, I destroy Q: The Board curriculum committee. [12] [13] them A: If requested, yes. [13] Q: Is it your practice to take notes at executive sessions? Q: What are the circumstances under which a faculty member [14] [15] is requested to attend curriculum committee meetings? [15] Q: Is it also your practice to destroy those notes after A: If there is a question about a specific issue that the [16] [17] you have implemented whatever your responsibilities are? Board is reviewing, or it could be another administrator. [18] Q: Do you memorialize your task lists from those meetings Q: In your experience, has it been the Board curriculum [19] [19] [20] in any other form such as on your computer? [20] committee's practice to include faculty in the subject A: No. matter being discussed by the curriculum committee? [21] Q: Does the Board have a curriculum committee? A: Which curriculum committee? [22] Q: The Board curriculum committee. If the subject is [23] Q: How is the curriculum committee selected? [24] chemistry, has it been the committee's practice to [24] A: The Board President. [25] invite a chemistry teacher? [25] Page 30 Page 32 Q: Is there a chair of the curriculum committee? A: No. [1] [1] Q: What is the community curriculum committee? [2] [2] Q: How is that person selected? A: The committee chaired by the Assistant Superintendent [3] A: Board President. [4] for curriculum that has teachers, community members, [4] Q: How are the members of the curriculum committee Board members and administrators on it. [6] selected? Q: Can you describe the functions of each of these A: Board President. committees in developing curriculum for the School [7] Q: How often does the curriculum committee meet? District? A: When required. A: The Assistant Superintendent is in charge of developing [9] Q: Are there any regularly scheduled meetings? [10] the curriculum in conjunction with the teachers, brings those recommendations to the community curriculum [11] Q: How is a meeting scheduled? [12] committee, then brings those recommendations to the A: When either a Board chairperson requests or the Board curriculum committee meeting. [13] [14] Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum requests. Q: And then would the next step in the process be -[14] MR. ROTHSCHILD: Can you read that back? A: To the full Board. [15] [15] (Last question and answer were read by the court Q: Just to make sure the answer is clear, the process is [16] [17] reporter.) [17] that the Assistant Superintendent and faculty make BY MR. ROTHSCHILD: recommendations first to the community curriculum [18] Q: When you say a Board chairperson, you are referring to committee, then their recommendations go on to the Board [19] [20] the chair of the curriculum committee? curriculum committee, and their recommendations then go A: Yes. [21] on to the full Board? [21] Q: Who attends the curriculum committee meetings? [22] [22] A: Which curriculum committee meeting? Q: Is that practice the subject of written policy? [23] [23] Q: Any curriculum committee meetings. [24] [24]

Q: How was that practice developed?

1251

A: There are two separate curriculum committees.